Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-08

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INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 L-01

INR-05 CIAE-00 EB-03 PRS-01 DODE-00 PM-03 /049 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:WSSHEPARD/FDR APPROVED BY EUR:JAARMITAGE EA/VN:LPETERS EUR/SOV:BZOOK EUR/EE:NGANDREWS C:WSHINN S/S:JMEALUM

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R 132339Z FEB 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 033813

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR,ETRD,HU

SUBJECT: HIGH FONOFF OFFICIAL ON DETENTE AND MFN

REF: A. BUDAPEST 231; B. BUDAPEST 242

1. WE HAVENOTED WITH INTEREST VARKONYI'S COMMENTS REGARDING DETENTE AND MFN, AND IN PARTICULAR HIS HOPE THAT WE WILL DO SOMETHING TO IMPROVE STATE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS. AS APPROPRIATE OCCASION PRESENTS ITSELF, YOU MIGHT POINT OUT TO HIM THAT IMPROVEMENT IN US-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS IS A RECIPROCAL MATTER. WE CANNOT, AS HE PUTS IT, "CONTINUE TREND TOWARDS NORMALIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF (OUR) RELATIONS WITH HUNGARY" IN DISREGARD OF GOH COMMENTS ON OUR POLICIES AND LEADERSHIP.

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2. TWO SUCH COMMENTS HAVE COME TO OUR ATTENTION RECENTLY.

THE IMPUTATION OF BLAME ON USG FOR VIET-NAM EVENTS SIMPLY DOES NOT CORRESPOND TO THE FACTS AND IS AN INAPPROPRIATE JUDGMENT FOR A MEMBER OF THE ICCS (JAN 26 NEPSZABADSAG EDITORIAL CITED REF B). ADDITIONALLY, THE CRITICISM OF THE ACTIVITIES AND MOTIVATIONS OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE BY NAME

(VARNAI ARTICLE IN JANUARY 19 NEPSZABADSAG) SHOULD BE CITED. FYI: WE HAVE NOTICED THAT SOVIET COMMENTARY ON THE MIDDLE EAST, WHILE SUBSTANTIVELY SIMILAR, HAS BEEN FAIRLY CIRCUMSPECT IN ITS TREATMENT OF THE SECRETARY PERSONALLY. END FYI.

3. VARKONYI SHOULD BE INFORMED THAT THE PROBLEM IS ONE OF CREATING AND SUSTAINING THE APPROPRIATE POLITICAL TONE FOR AN IMPROVEMENT IN OUR RELATIONS TO BE FOSTERED. ARTICLES SUCH AS THOSE CITED DO NOT ENHANCE THE PROSPECTS FOR SUCH IMPROVEMENT. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: DETENTE, FOREIGN RELATIONS, TRADE AGREEMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 13 FEB 1975 Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE033813

Document Number: 1975STATE033813
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WSSHEPARD/FDR

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750054-0284

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750244/aaaabnnm.tel Line Count: 78

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ORIGIN EUR Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: A. BUDAPEST 231; B. BUDAPEST 242
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 03 JUN 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <14 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: HIGH FONOFF OFFICIAL ON DETENTE AND MFN

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, HU

To: BUDAPEST

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006